

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 22, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-18 are canceled. Claims 19-26, 28, 29, 32, and 34 have been amended. Claims 19-35 are pending in this application, with claims 19 and 26 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed March 22, 2004, claims 19-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,470,010 (Szviatovszki).

Claims 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Szviatovszki.

Before discussing the cited prior art and the Examiner's rejections of the claims in view of that art, a brief summary of the present invention is appropriate. The present invention relates to the management of subscriber data in telecommunication networks. A system 2 according to the present invention is connected to a GSM network 3 between a Mobile Switching Center/Visiting Location Register (MSC/VLR) 4 and a Home Location Register (HLR) 5 (see page 7, lines 5-8 of the present specification). The system 2 may obtain subscriber location data by filtering the normal communications between the MSC/VLR 4 and the HLR 5 (page 7, lines 12-13). The subscriber location information extracted by the system 2 is stored in a database 12 (page 7, lines 14-15).

A PSTN network 6 with an intelligent network service may also be connected to the system 2 by a service control point (SCP) 7 and a service data point (SDP) 8 (page 7, lines 16-19). Inquiries from the SCP 7 to the SDP 8 are directed to system 2, which may respond directly to the inquiry or direct or forward the inquiry to SDP 8 (page 7, line 19 to page 8, line 2). Accordingly,

the system 2 exchanges subscriber data between two elements, i.e., the SCP 7 and SDP 8, of a single telecommunication network, i.e., PSTN network 6.

The system 2 may likewise be connected to a TCP/IP network 9 having a terminal 11 and a gatekeeper 10 of the TCP/IP network 9 for similarly filtering data exchanged between the terminal 11 and the gatekeeper 10 (page 8, lines 6-16).

Means for providing accessibility 15 of the inventive system identifies a subscriber's service profile and transfers messages received on one network to another of the networks considered best or most appropriate (page 9, lines 1-2). In the specific example discussed in the specification, a message left on an answering machine may be converted to an electronic mail message. According to a further aspect of the invention, a telecommunication connection between various networks can be set up directly between the various networks, without having to separately check the subscriber data via a third network (page 9, lines 17-21).

Independent claims 19 and 26 have each been amended to more clearly define the subscriber data as "subscriber location and service data for each subscriber of the each telecommunication network, the subscriber data for the each telecommunication network having a unique format in accordance with a telecommunication network architecture for the each telecommunication network". Support for this limitation is found on page 4, lines 7-16, and page 9, lines 17-21 of the specification. The claims are further amended to recite that the system exchanges data between i) the telecommunication network elements of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, ii) the telecommunication network elements handling subscriber data and the single logical subscriber database in the system, and iii) the telecommunication network elements within one of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data. Support for this limitation is found at

page 9, lines 8-13, at page 7, lines 14-16, and at page 7, line 19 to page 8, line 2 of the specification. Dependent claims 20-25, 28, 29, 32, and 34 have each been amended for consistency with the amendments made to independent claims 19 and 26.

Szviatovszki fails to disclose or suggest 1) subscriber data including a subscriber location and service data, 2) a system in which data is exchanged between the telecommunication network elements of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, between the telecommunication network elements handling subscriber data and the subscriber database, and between the telecommunication network elements within one of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, and 3) a single logical database in which subscriber data of each of the first and second telecommunication networks is stored, as now expressly recited in independent claims 19 and 26.

Szviatovszki discloses a method and system for setting up a speech connection in different networks. According to Szviatovszki, when a subscriber starts a work station and connects to a data network, the current data network address and a personal identifier (PI) are transmitted to a gateway connecting the data network to an ISDN network (col. 3, lines 12-19 of Szviatovszki). A gateway converts the internet address to an ISDN address and sends it and a PI identifier via an intelligent network Service Switching Point (SSP) to a Switch Control Point (SCP), and the SCP stores the data in a Service Data Point (SDP) database (col. 3, lines 20-24). Since the intelligent network has the routing information, the subscriber can use services such as the call remote control FMD (follow-me-diversion) and the personal number UPT (universal personal telecommunications).

Szviatovszki discloses that only the data network address and PI identifier of a subscriber are stored in a database in the intelligent network. Accordingly, Szviatovszki fails to disclose subscriber data including a subscriber location and service data, as expressly recited in independent claims 19 and 26. Furthermore, since Szviatovszki discloses that only the subscriber data from a subscriber in the data network is stored in the database, Szviatovszki fails to disclose, teach or suggest a single logical database in which subscriber data of each of the telecommunication networks is stored, as expressly recited in independent claims 19 and 26.

Szviatovszki further discloses that the data is sent from the subscriber work station to the intelligent network. Therefore, Szviatovszki discloses only the exchange of subscriber data between a network element handling subscriber data in the data network and the intelligent network. Szviatovszki accordingly, fails to disclose a system in which subscriber data is exchanged between the telecommunication network elements of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, between the telecommunication network elements handling subscriber data and the subscriber database, and between the telecommunication network elements within one of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, as expressly recited in independent claims 19 and 26.

Furthermore, Szviatovszki discloses that the data network address is stored in a database in a SDP of an intelligent network which is connected to the data network by a gateway. The intelligent network of Szviatovszki accordingly can not be considered to disclose the claimed data management system which is linked to network elements of the at least first and second telecommunication networks, as recited in independent claims 19 and 26.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 19 and 24 are not anticipated by Szviatovszki under 35 U.S.C. §102.

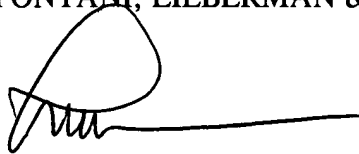
Szviatovszki is directed to the express purpose of providing speech connection to a work station connected to a data network. For this purpose, only the data network address of the work station is required to be stored in the intelligent network so that speech connections can be connected to the work station. In contrast, the present invention has the broader purpose of providing universal accessibility between various networks. The limited scope of Szviatovszki fails to provide any teaching, suggestion, or motivation for providing the exchange of data between the telecommunication network elements of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, between the telecommunication network elements handling subscriber data and the subscriber database, and between the telecommunication network elements within one of the at least first and second telecommunication networks handling subscriber data, as expressly recited in independent claims 19 and 26. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 19 and 26 are also allowable over Szviatovszki under 35 U.S.C. §103.

Dependent claims 20-25 and 27-35, each being dependent on one of independent claims 19 and 26, are deemed allowable for at least the same reasons expressed above with respect to independent claims 19 and 26.

This application is now considered to be in condition for allowance, and early notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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